



**II MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE
PUBLIC AFFAIRS
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PRESS RELEASE

May 20, 2008

PRESS RELEASE 08-12

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. – Cpl. William J. Cooper, 22, of Eupora, Miss., died May 19 while conducting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Cooper was assigned to Weapons Company, Battalion Landing Team 1st Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, II Marine Expeditionary Force, home-based here and currently deployed in support of International Security Assistance Force - Afghanistan.

Cooper joined the Marine Corps Dec. 27, 2004, and was trained as a rifleman, joining 1st Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, March 3, 2006. He was promoted to the rank of corporal on Aug. 1, 2007. His decorations include the Good Conduct Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, Iraq Campaign Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and two Sea Service Deployment Ribbons.

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